

Preliminary Amendment

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method to electronically deliver a message from a sender to an intended recipient based on tracking movement of a mobile object, the method comprising:

enabling both the sender and the intended recipient to send and receive an electronically deliverable message;

obtaining a message provided by the sender;

obtaining a location designated by the sender for delivery of said message;

tracking a specified mobile object having a position-determining device that determines its own current position, and which transmits its then current position at preset time intervals;

determining from the transmitted current position whether the specified mobile object has reached said designated location; and

initiating a procedure for automatic delivery of said message electronically to the intended recipient upon said specified mobile object being determined to have reached said designated location.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said specified mobile object is the intended recipient.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said specified mobile object is identified by the sender, and is other than the intended recipient.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the intended recipient is a stationary object.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the intended recipient is animate.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the sender is a mobile object.

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7. (Canceled)

8. (Canceled)

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said message is at least one of data, text, audio and video.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a mode in which said message is reproduced for the intended recipient is in accordance with a setting controlled by the intended recipient.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein delivery of said message is controlled in accordance with a delivery rule provided by the sender.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein initiating said procedure for automatic delivery of said message upon detection of said specified mobile object reaching said designated location message comprises processing said delivery rule.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining of the message comprises receiving and storing a message based on input from the sender.

14. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining of the message comprises retrieving a message from among a plurality of stored messages based on input from the sender.

15. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining of the designated location comprises obtaining a location based on input from the sender.

16. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said obtaining of the designated location comprises retrieving a location from among a plurality of stored locations based on input from the sender.

17. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising obtaining an identification of the intended recipient based on input from the sender.

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18. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said rule includes instructions for repeating delivery of said message.

19. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein said intended recipient includes a plurality of recipients identified by the sender.

20. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a message with an electronic communication system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, wherein the system includes a server, and wherein each of the clients is mobile and includes a position-determining device, the method comprising:

providing each of the clients with a position-determining device that determines its own current position;

obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

obtaining, at the server, a designated location based on input from said first client;

obtaining, at the server, an identification of a second client as the intended recipient of said message, based on input from said first client;

obtaining, at the server, identification of one of the clients which is to be tracked for delivery of said message;

determining, from the position-determining device of said client to be tracked for delivery of said message, whether said client being tracked has arrived at said designated location; and

automatically triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient upon said tracked mobile client being determined to have arrived at said designated location.

21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said client to be tracked for delivery of said message is said second client, and

wherein said step of obtaining identification of a client to be tracked for delivery of said message comprises deriving said identification from the identification of said second client.

22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein said step of obtaining identification of a client to be tracked for delivery of said message comprises obtaining said identification based on input from the first client.

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23. (Currently Amended) A method for delivering a message with an electronic communication system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, wherein the system includes a server, and wherein each of the clients includes a position-determining device, the method comprising:

providing each of the clients with a position-determining device that determines its own current position;

obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

obtaining, at the server, a designated location based on input from said first client;

obtaining, at the server, a delivery rule based on input from said first client for delivering said message to an intended recipient, wherein said delivery rule includes arrival of a specified client from among the plurality of clients at said designated location;

determining, from the position-determining device of said mobile client, whether said specified mobile client has arrived at said designated location; and

upon said specified mobile client being determined to have arrived at said designated location, triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient, based upon said delivery rule.

24. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising obtaining, at the server, identity of said specified mobile client based on input from said first client.

25. (Original) The method of claim 23, further comprising obtaining, at the server, identity of the intended recipient based on input from said first client.

26. (Canceled)

27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) A method for automatically delivering a message electronically from a sender with a communication system servicing a plurality of potential recipients for receiving a message, and based upon position-determining technology, comprising:

obtaining a message based on input from the sender;

obtaining a designated location based on input from the sender;

obtaining identification of at least two recipients, from among the plurality of potential recipients, ~~specified based on input from the sender as intended recipients of the message~~; and

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automatically delivering said message electronically to one of said ~~intended~~ identified recipients based upon the position of said one of the intended recipients relative to another of said ~~intended~~ identified recipients, as derived from the position-determining technology.

29. (Original) The method of claim 28, wherein each of the plurality of potential recipients includes a position-determining device to determine its current position.

30. (Currently amended) A method for delivering a message with an electronic communication system, wherein the system includes a server, and with the system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, at least some of the clients being mobile and having a position-determining device, the method comprising:

obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

obtaining, at the server, an identification of a second, mobile client as the intended recipient ~~[[of]]~~ for receiving said message, based on input from said first client;

obtaining, at the server, an identification of a third client, based on input from said first client; and

automatically triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient upon said second, mobile client being determined to ~~have arrived~~ be at a designated position relative to the position of said third client.

31. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said third client is also a mobile client having a position-determining device.

32. (Original) The method of claim 30, wherein said first and second clients are the same client.

33. (Currently Amended) A method for operating an electronic communications system servicing a plurality of users for enabling any sender who is a user to automatically deliver a message electronically to an intended recipient who is also a user, based on the tracked position of a specified mobile object, comprising:

enabling each of the plurality of users to both send and receive electronic message data;

processing and storing electronic message data provided by the sender;

tracking the position of the specified mobile object; and

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automatically delivering the stored electronic message data to the intended recipient upon arrival of the specified mobile object at a designated location.

34. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes said message, said intended recipient, and a delivery rule.

35. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes said message.

36. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes said intended recipient.

37. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes a delivery rule.

38. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes identity of said specified mobile object.

39. (Original) The method of claim 33, wherein said message data includes said designated location.

40. (Currently Amended) Apparatus to electronically deliver a message from a sender to an intended recipient based on tracking movement of a mobile object, the apparatus comprising:

means for enabling both the sender and the intended recipient to send and receive an electronically deliverable message;

means for obtaining a message provided by the sender;

means for obtaining a location designated by the sender for delivery of said message;

means for tracking a specified mobile object having a position-determining device that determines its own current position, and which transmits its then current position at preset time intervals;

means for determining from the transmitted current position whether the specified mobile object has reached said designated location; and

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means for initiating a procedure for automatic delivery of said message electronically to the intended recipient upon said specified mobile object being determined to have reached said designated location.

41. (Currently amended) Apparatus for delivering a message with an electronic communication system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, wherein the system includes a server, and wherein each of the clients includes a position-determining device for determining its own current position, the apparatus comprising:

means for obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, a designated location based on input from said first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, an identification of a second client as the intended recipient of said message, based on input from said first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, identification of a mobile client to be tracked for delivery of said message;

means for determining, from the position-determining device of said client to be tracked for delivery of said message, whether said client being tracked has arrived at said designated location; and

means for automatically triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient upon said tracked mobile client being determined to have arrived at said designated location.

42. (Currently amended) Apparatus for delivering a message with an electronic communication system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, wherein the system includes a server, and wherein each of the clients includes a position-determining device for determining its own current position, the apparatus comprising:

means for obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, a designated location based on input from said first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, a delivery rule based on input from said first client for delivering said message to an intended recipient, wherein said delivery rule includes arrival of a specified mobile client at said designated location;

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means for determining, from the position-determining device of said mobile client, whether said specified mobile client has arrived at said designated location; and

means for upon said specified mobile client being determined to have arrived at said designated location, triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient, based upon said delivery rule.

43. (Canceled)

44. (Canceled)

45. (Currently amended) Apparatus for automatically delivering a message electronically from a sender with a communication system servicing a plurality of potential recipients for receiving a message, and based upon position-determining technology, comprising:

means for obtaining a message based on input from the sender;

means for obtaining a designated location based on input from the sender;

means for obtaining identification of at least two recipients, from among the plurality of potential recipients, ~~specified~~ based on input from the sender ~~as intended recipients of the message~~; and

means for automatically delivering said message electronically to one of said ~~intended~~ identified recipients based upon the position of said one of the ~~intended~~ identified recipients relative to another of said ~~intended~~ identified recipients, as derived from the position-determining technology.

46. (Currently amended) Apparatus for delivering a message with an electronic communication system, wherein the system includes a server, and with the system servicing a plurality of clients in a client-server relationship, at least some of the clients being mobile and having a position-determining device, the apparatus comprising:

means for obtaining, at the server, a message based on input from a first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, an identification of a second, mobile client as the intended recipient ~~[[of]]~~ for receiving said message, based on input from said first client;

means for obtaining, at the server, an identification of a third client, based on input from said first client; and

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means for automatically triggering electronic delivery of said message to the intended recipient upon said second, mobile client being determined to ~~have arrived~~ be at a designated position relative to the position of said third client.

47. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for operating an electronic communications system servicing a plurality of users for enabling any sender who is a user to automatically deliver a message electronically to an intended recipient who is also a user, based on the tracked position of a specified mobile object, comprising:

means for enabling both the sender and the intended recipient to send and receive an electronically deliverable message;

means for processing and storing message data provided by the sender;

means for tracking the position of the specified mobile object; and

means for automatically delivering a message electronically to the intended recipient upon arrival of the specified mobile object at a designated location.

48. (Previously presented) A method to electronically deliver a message from a sender to an intended recipient based on tracking movement of a mobile object, the method comprising:

obtaining a message provided by the sender;

obtaining a location designated by the sender for delivery of said message;

tracking a specified mobile object having a position-determining device that determines its own current position, and which transmits its then current position at preset time intervals;

determining from the transmitted current position whether the specified mobile object has reached said designated location; and

initiating a procedure for automatic delivery of said message electronically to the intended recipient upon said specified mobile object being determined to have reached said designated location,

wherein said specified mobile object is other than the intended recipient.

49. (Previously presented) A method to electronically deliver a message from a sender to an intended recipient based on tracking movement of a mobile object, the method comprising:

obtaining a message provided by the sender;

obtaining a location designated by the sender for delivery of said message;

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tracking a specified mobile object having a position-determining device that determines its own current position, and which transmits its then current position at preset time intervals;

determining from the transmitted current position whether the specified mobile object has reached said designated location; and

initiating a procedure for automatic delivery of said message electronically to the intended recipient upon said specified mobile object being determined to have reached said designated location,

wherein said message is at least one of data, text, audio and video modes, and

wherein a mode in which said message is reproduced for the intended recipient is in accordance with a setting controlled by the intended recipient.

50. (Previously presented) A method to electronically deliver a message from a mobile sender to an intended recipient based on tracking movement of a mobile object, the method comprising:

obtaining a message provided by the mobile sender;

obtaining a location designated by the mobile sender for delivery of said message;

tracking a specified mobile object having a position-determining device that determines its own current position, and which transmits its then current position at preset time intervals;

determining from the transmitted current position whether the specified mobile object has reached said designated location; and

initiating a procedure for automatic delivery of said message electronically to the intended recipient upon said specified mobile object being determined to have reached said designated location.